

Quarterly Business Report

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Third Quarter 2014

Dear Business Leader:

During the third quarter of 2014, my office continued to embrace technological innovations and the knowledge of tech-minded individuals to advance Nevada's voting system overseas and continue the development of SilverFlume, the state's online business portal.

Intuit hosted a forum with other local business last week to capture the customer mindset and perspective of SilverFlume users. Participants provided valuable feedback to the Secretary of State's office and the Department of Taxation. It's partnerships like this that allow our office to continually improve our services to you.

I'm continuing my promise to uphold the integrity and security of Nevada elections through the rollout of EASE, Nevada's Effective Absentee System for Elections. It's an entirely online application for military and overseas citizens to register to vote, mark their ballot, and download a PDF file to email, mail, or fax their ballot to their county clerk or registrar's office. Nevada leads the nation in offering the first voting system of its kind.

Lastly, I've provided some clarification to our domestic partnership program as it relates to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal's recent ruling on same-sex marriage in Nevada. My office has received quite a few questions from the public about what, if anything, has changed.

Thank you for sharing in our news. As always, I look forward to continuing to serve you.

Respectfully,



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The Las Vegas Latin Chamber of Commerce handed out copies of "Financial Soccer," an interactive money management video game, during its 12th annual La Oportunidad Consumer Expo. The Secretary of State's office promotes financial literacy and fiscal responsibility.

Intuit, Reno-based tech companies provide valuable feedback on improving SilverFlume, Nevada's Business Portal

With any project, Secretary of State Ross Miller believes there is always room for improvement. While 2014 surveys show that SilverFlume, Nevada's Business Portal, receives good marks for usability among the majority of customers, Miller and the SilverFlume team continually work to improve and enhance the system's processes.

Intuit and other Reno-based tech companies hosted a focus group on October 16 to provide expert feedback to the SilverFlume team. Facilitated by an Intuit "innovation catalyst," the meeting employed Intuit's "Design for Delight" methodology to capture the customer mindset and perspective. It's the same principles and tools that Intuit employs to enhance its signature product – TurboTax. Innovation catalysts are experienced in helping others think outside of the box and reframe challenges.

Representatives from the Secretary of State's office and the Department of Taxation received the valuable private-sector feedback, which will assist the SilverFlume team in developing the system in future stages.

"My office and I greatly appreciate the contribution of local businesses helping to improve SilverFlume," said Miller. "It's involvement like this that supports Nevada's



Intuit and other local businesses gathered for a focus group to provide feedback on SilverFlume, Nevada's Business Portal.

economic recovery and development efforts."

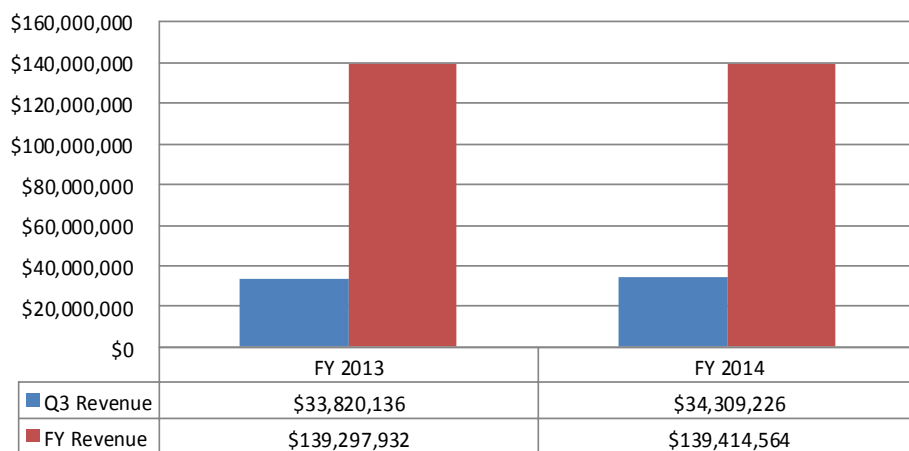
Since its launch in 2012, SilverFlume has had more than 1 million unique visitors and processed more than 817,000 business transactions and \$168 million in revenue, receiving positive praise from businesses and business consultants alike, such as in this [recent article from the Las Vegas Business Press](#).

Compliance efforts generate revenue for NV

Since March 2013, compliance officers have brought in **\$1,687,630**, with \$1,265,821 being generated this calendar year to date. All revenue is deposited into Nevada's general fund, which finances the state's operations.

During the same timeframe, the division has also brought more than **3,500** resident agents and business entities into compliance. The Secretary of State's office works hard to level the playing field for all businesses.

Commercial Recordings Revenue Q3 '13 vs. Q3 '14



New and renewing business licenses increased during the third quarter of 2014, with revenue also increased compared to the third quarter of 2013. Overall, FY 2014 generated more revenue compared to FY 2013 during the same time period.

Nevada Secretary of State Launches Online Resource for Registration, Ballot Marking for Overseas Military Voting

Secretary of State Ross Miller says system is first of its kind in the nation, and a significant advancement for U.S. Armed Forces and Nevadans overseas

The Secretary of State's office launched Nevada's [Effective Absentee System for Elections](http://www.nvease.gov), or EASE, an online application that seamlessly integrates voter registration and electronic ballot marking on Friday, Sept. 19, coinciding with Nevada's deadline to distribute absentee ballots to covered voters. EASE, at www.nvease.gov, is available to members of the United States Armed Forces, their spouses and dependents, and Nevada voters who reside outside of the country. Nevada is the first state in the nation to introduce an entirely online application, from registration to requesting a ballot to ballot delivery to a ballot marking system using a digital/electronic signature, for military and overseas voters.

"Our military members currently serving overseas are on the front lines protecting democracy, and we owe them the most accessible, convenient and secure system possible to participate in the very elections they are fighting to defend," said Secretary of State Ross Miller. "EASE is a huge step forward from where we were only a few months ago, when military and overseas citizens were forced to return a paper absentee ballot by mail, or print out, sign and scan an absentee ballot and return it by email."

Assembly Bill 175, passed during the 2013 Legislature, authorizes covered voters to use digital or electronic signatures to sign applications to register to vote; applications for military-overseas ballots; and military-overseas ballots. Previously, military and other Nevadans covered by the

Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) were required to submit their ballots by mail or they needed a printer and a scanner to receive and return a ballot via email. AB 175 also requires a system of approved electronic transmission to include a method by which a covered voter may provide his or her digital or electronic signature on any document or other material that is necessary for the covered voter to register to vote, apply for a military-overseas ballot or cast a military-overseas ballot.

EASE retrieves the electronic image of the voter's signature already on file with their county clerk or registrar or from the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles so it can be used by the voter to register to vote, request an absent ballot or sign an absent ballot, negating the requirement of printing and signing the ballot before the voter returns it. After a military or overseas voter marks his or her own ballot with EASE, the system applies the voter's electronic signature to the ballot and generates a cover sheet with the necessary declarations, affirmations and information to allow the counties to process and count the military or overseas absent ballot. When finished, an EASE voter has the option of saving the ballot materials as a PDF file and emailing it as an attachment to the respective county clerk or registrar's office, or printing it and returning by mail or fax. EASE does not return the voter's ballot. The voter must return the ballot himself or herself.



Secretary of State Ross Miller is joined by members of Nellis Air Force Base and the Nevada National Guard during a presentation of EASE.

Domestic Partnership Update in Light of Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal's Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage in Nevada

The Secretary of State's office is providing answers to questions we've received in regard to the domestic partnership program since the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals recently ruled that same-sex marriage in Nevada is constitutional.

If I am registered as a domestic partner in Nevada, will my domestic partnership be automatically converted to a marriage as a result of the Ninth Circuit ruling?

No, the domestic partnerships in Nevada will not be automatically converted to marriages. Marriage licenses are handled by County Clerks. Those wishing to get married in Nevada should contact the County Clerk's Office for the county/city in which they wish to get married to obtain a marriage license. [Click here](#) for a list of clerks.

Am I required to terminate my domestic partnership in order to get married in Nevada?

There is no requirement to terminate a State of Nevada domestic partnership at the time of a marriage between the same two partners.

My partner and I wish to get married in Nevada, and no longer wish to be in a domestic partnership. What is the process for married spouses to terminate their domestic partnership?

NRS 122A provides for a termination process. If you are interested in terminating a domestic partnership, please consult [NRS 122A.300](#). The Secretary of State's office cannot provide legal advice on whether or not you should terminate a domestic partnership if you are married. You should consider consulting with a licensed attorney in the State of Nevada to determine if termination is necessary.

I want to get married in Nevada. Where can I get a marriage license?

The Secretary of State's Office does not issue marriage licenses. To obtain a marriage license, contact the County Clerk's Office for the county/city in which you wish to get married. [Click here](#) for a list of clerks.

If am in a same sex marriage in another State, does Nevada now recognize that marriage?

According to the Ninth Circuit's order, Nevada must recognize marriages from other states. The following statement is from the order: "permanently enjoining the state, its political subdivisions, and its officers, employees, and agents, from enforcing any constitutional provision, statute, regulation or policy preventing otherwise qualified same-sex couples from marrying, or denying recognition to marriages celebrated in other jurisdictions which, if the spouses were not of the same sex, would be valid under the laws of the state."

Where can I find a copy of the order issued by the Ninth Circuit?

[Click here](#) to view the order.

For general information about the Domestic Partnership program and the application process, visit the "Licensing Center" on our website, www.nvsos.gov, or by [clicking here](#).

Election information: Find sample ballot, early vote locations, election day polling site on My Voter File

Registered voters can find their general election day polling location and sample ballots prior to the start of early voting at the online voter portal, My Voter File, at nvsos.gov/votersearch.

As well as the registered voter's sample ballot and assigned polling location, My Voter File also provides information on the individual's voting history, list of elected officials, election precinct, party affiliation, and address. To access My Voter File, registered voters must enter their first and last names, date of birth, and a driver's license number or social security number.



For official results on Election Day, visit our Election Night Reporting website at www.SilverStateElection.com.

Interested in more stats from the Secretary of State's office? Check out our latest biennial report by [clicking here](#). In it, you'll find the progress and achievements our office made over the last two fiscal years.